


**Wilderness Evaluation Process**

**4 steps required during Forest Plan Revision process:**

- **Step 1 Inventory:** identify and inventory lands that may or may not be suitable for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System (Completed)
- **Step 2 Evaluation:** evaluate the wilderness characteristics of each inventoried area (Completed)
  - During the Evaluation Step areas with low or no wilderness characteristics were eliminated. Public comments, Tribal, and cooperator input was also considered when eliminating areas.
- **Current Step:**
  - **Step 3 Analysis:** forest supervisor determines, considering public and internal input, which areas to analyze during the NEPA process and alternatives.
  - **Step 4 Recommendation:** forest supervisor decides which areas, if any, to recommend to Congress for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System.



**Analysis Process Overview:**

- Comments received at this time, during Scoping, will be reviewed in addition to the Evaluation Step input to identify which units, or portions of units, to carry forward into the range of alternatives to be analyzed in the Forest Plan Draft Environmental Impact Statement.
- Not all lands identified in the Inventory and Evaluation are required to be carried forward into Analysis.
- During alternative development and analysis of the alternatives, the positive and negative effects of managing an area as a recommended wilderness will be evaluated.

**Questions or to Comment on the Draft Forest Plan:**

online: [fs.usda.gov/main/mantillasal/landmanagement/planning](https://fs.usda.gov/main/mantillasal/landmanagement/planning)

email: [mlnfpplanrevision@usda.gov](mailto:mlnfpplanrevision@usda.gov)

phone: 435-636-3508

USDA

Manti-La Sal National Forest

United States Department of Agriculture

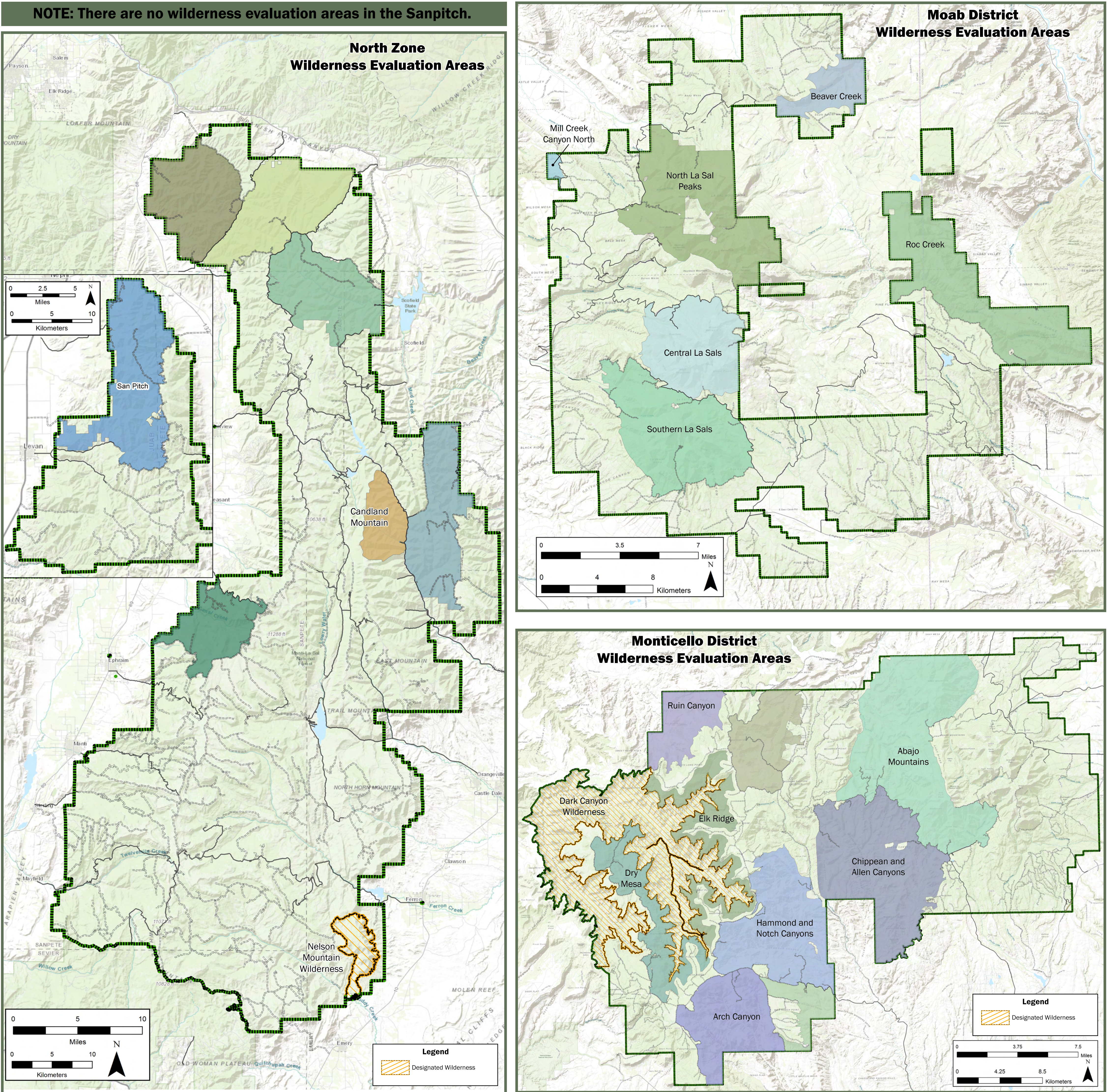


**When the current forest plan was signed...**

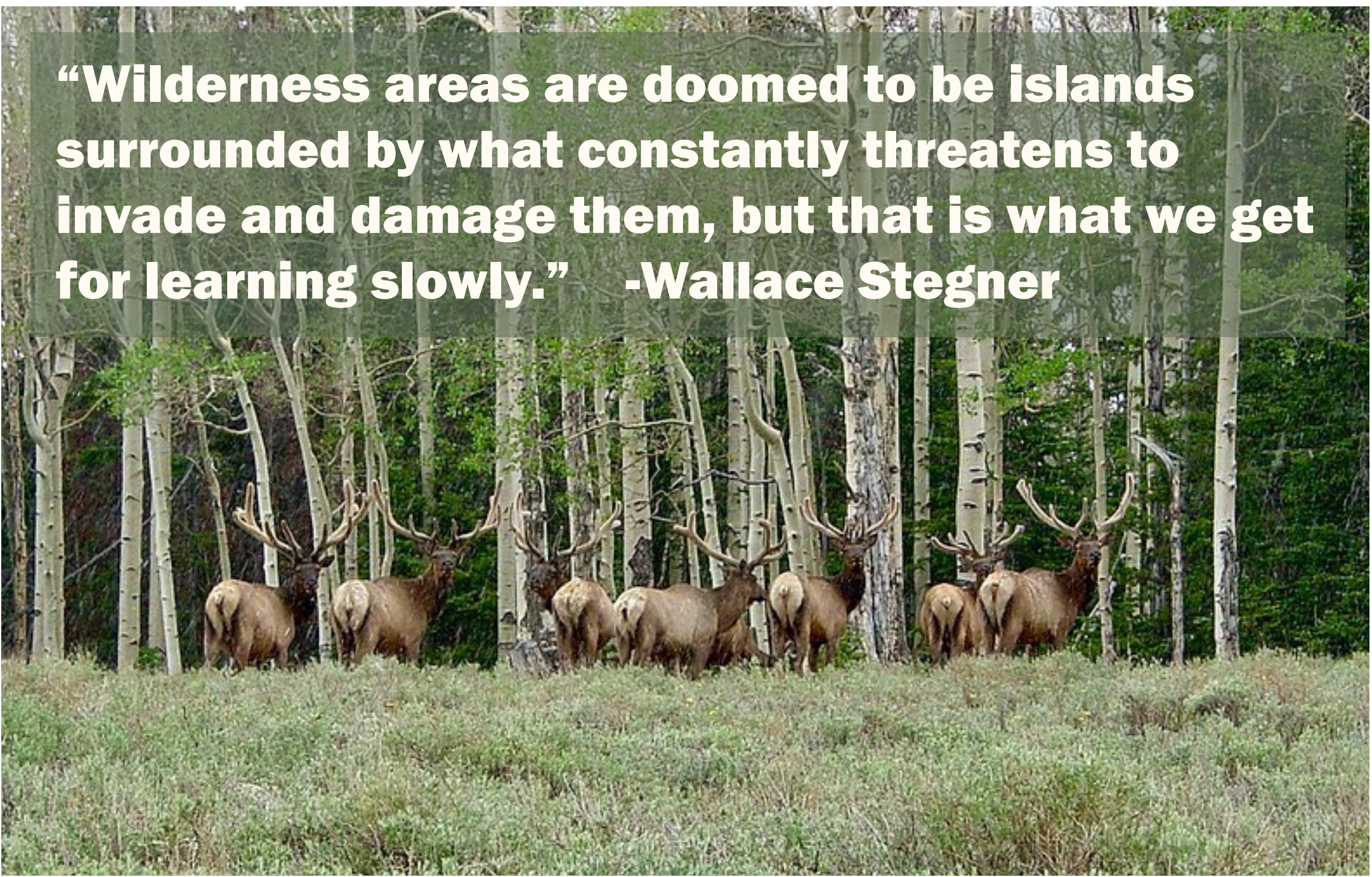
**Dark Canyon Wilderness had only been designated for two years.**

**What else has changed?**


- Increased Visitation and Population
- New and Different Types of Technology
- International Visitation Increase
- Designation of Nelson Mountain Wilderness
- Designation of Bears Ears National Monument



**Wilderness Evaluation Areas**



**“Wilderness areas are doomed to be islands surrounded by what constantly threatens to invade and damage them, but that is what we get for learning slowly.” -Wallace Stegner**



**If recommended, the area(s) would be managed with the following forest plan components:**

**Desired Conditions:**

- The ecological and social characteristics that provide the basis for potentially being included in the National Wilderness Preservation System are maintained and protected.
- Ecological processes such as natural succession, wildfire, avalanches, insects, and disease function with a limited amount of human influence are present and dominant.
- Recommended wilderness areas provide opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Impacts from visitor use do not detract from the natural setting.

**Standards and Guidelines:**

- Motorized use shall not occur during anytime of the year.
- Commercial filming, commercial timber harvesting, and launching or landing of unmanned aircraft, including drones, is prohibited.